

S-375  
Wenona Survey District  
Wenona  
public

Nineteenth and twentieth centuries

Wenona is the smaller of the two communities on Deal Island, although the village is the site of the principal harbor. Separated from the main community of Deal Island by approximately a mile, Wenona is comprised of about fifty structures, a large majority of which were built during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century. By the time of the 1877 county atlas there were fifty structures that defined Wenona, and the community steadily grew until the turn of the century when the population started to level off and later declined. The dwellings that define Wenona are similar to other watermen's communities. Following popular national styles, the houses tend towards smaller proportions than more standard examples found outside the water-oriented villages.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Wenona Survey District

### 2. Location

street &amp; number End of Deal Island Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Wenona

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

First

state Maryland

county

Somerset

### 3. Classification

**Category**☒ district☐ building(s)☐ structure☐ site☐ object**Ownership**☐ public☐ private☒ both**Public Acquisition**☐ in process☐ being considered☒ not applicable**Status**☒ occupied☐ unoccupied☐ work in progress**Accessible**☒ yes: restricted☐ yes: unrestricted☐ no**Present Use**☐ agriculture☒ commercial☐ educational☐ entertainment☐ government☐ industrial☐ military☐ museum☐ park☒ private residence☒ religious☐ scientific☒ transportation☐ other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Various Owners

street &amp; number

telephone no.:

city, town

state and zip code

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Somerset Clerk of Court

liber

street &amp; number

Somerset County Courthouse

folio

city, town

Princess Anne

state

Md. 21853

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal☐ state☐ county☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-375

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### Wenona Survey District

Wenona, Maryland, is located at the end of MD State Road 363 at the tip of Deal Island, Somerset County, Maryland. The watermen's community activity is primarily centered around the Wenona harbor, the principal harbor for the island.

Largely known for the few skipjacks that are moored in the Wenona harbor, the community is also distinguished by the Brown Sailloft (S- ), the only surviving sail-making structure to survive in Somerset County. The harbor area also includes the old J.S.C. Vetra Store, a few mid to late nineteenth century frame dwellings, and a handful of frame and concrete block crab shacks.

The older housing stock in Wenona is scattered along MD 363 and a U-shaped road approximately a half-mile from the harbor. Most houses are oriented to the road, but a few are set back with short entrance lanes.

The largest part of housing in Wenona dates from the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century. Similar to other watermen's communities such as Rumbley and Frenchtown, the houses are relatively modest two-story, two- or three-bay frame structures with a side hall or center hall plan. Built on pier foundations, the weatherboarded houses are currently sheathed with a mixture of original siding as well as asphalt shingles and tiles. Attached to the back of many of the dwellings is a single-story service wing. Several houses retain mid nineteenth century features including paneled pilasters, decorative window and door lintels, fishscale shingles, or turned post porches.

The historic buildings that comprise Wenona include three-dozen dwellings, the Brown Sailloft, the Vetra Store. Perhaps the oldest house to remain in Wenona is the William Price house (S-47), located on the northeastern edge of the community. Docked at the harbor were four skipjacks including the CALEB W. JONES and the H.M. KRANTZ, as well as a collection of smaller and more modern bay craft. The only church in Wenona is of modern construction.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. S-375

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

### Significance

Wenona is the smaller of the two communities on Deal Island, although it is the site of the principal harbor. Separated from the community of Deal Island by approximately a mile, Wenona consists of approximately fifty structures, over two-thirds of which were built during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries. By the time of the 1877 county atlas there were approximately fifty structures in Wenona, and the community steadily grew until the turn of the century when the population leveled off and started to decline. The houses that define Wenona are similar to other watermen's communities. Following popular styles, the dwellings tend towards smaller proportions than more standard examples found outside these water-oriented villages.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-375

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting NorthingB 

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Zone Easting NorthingC 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 6-19-86

street &amp; number 424 N. Somerset Ave. telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
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Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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Wenona Survey District  
Wenona, Somerset Co. Md.  
East Elevation  
3/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Wenona Survey District

S-375

Wenona Somerset Co. Md.

Harbor

7/86 Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust